THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS'

MILLENNIAL STAR.

"Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh." MATT. XXIV. 44.

No. 18, Vol. XLVII. Monday, May 4, 1885. Price One Penny.

FIFTY-FIFTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

THE Fifty-fifth Annual General Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints convened in the Logan Tabernacle, Logan City, on Saturday, April 4, 1885, in pursuance of an announcement by the First Presidency. Apostle Franklin D. Richards presided.

Present on the stand: Of the Twelve Apostles, Franklin D. Richards, Francis Marion Lyman, John Henry Smith and Heber J. Grant. Also a number of Presidents of Stakes, Bishops, Elders and other leading brethren from various parts of Utah and adjacent Territories.

The Conference was called to order by President F. D. Richards and the Logan choir sang:

Glorious things of thee are spoken,
Zion, city of our God.

The opening prayer was offered by Apostle John Henry Smith, and the choir sang:

All praise to our redeeming Lord,
Who joins us by His grace

PRESIDENT F. D. RICHARDS

Said it was an occasion for heartfelt gratitude that we were permitted to meet under so favorable circumstances as those that surrounded us. It was a matter of regret, however, that the Presidency of the Church were unable to be present, and others of our brethren were necessarily absent from this Conference. If any additional evidence were wanted to show that this Church is not of the world, it exists to-day. Notwithstanding the peculiar surroundings of the Saints, a brighter day never appeared for the Church than this. Trees that are shaken by the winds seem as if they would be torn up. The soil of the earth is loosened around the roots. The trees are thus tested. At such times

the tallest of them are most exposed to the hurricane. It is not therefore a matter of surprise that some of our leading brethren are not with us to-day. There are times of winter when the frosts cause the trees to show scarcely any foliage or appearance of life. But while the adverse season is on, the sap is down in the roots, and if the winds have loosened the earth, they are extending themselves, and when the season changes, the result will be larger and better fruit. Some of our brethren and sisters may feel timid at the threatening condition that exists, but there is no cause for real alarm. It is a time when the Saints can go before the Lord in secret, obtaining the spirit of revelation that they may be leaders and instructors to their families. The present hour finds the standing of men and women. Those who are not grounded in the truth by the love of it are showing themselves, and thus the Church is made purer and better. Such situations of trial are periodically necessary to separate the corrupt from the pure. They are needful to bring us to repentance of all our shortcomings. The speaker hoped that those who should follow him in addressing the people would be enabled to feed the flock of Christ. The Saints of Cache Stake are peculiarly blessed, being under the very shades of a Temple of God. He prayed that the blessing of the Lord might attend the proceedings of the Conference.

BISHOP DAVID H. CANNON

Of St. George, was the next speaker. He had been called upon to represent the St. George Stake of Zion, the masses of the people of which were striving to serve God. The threatening aspect of affairs was causing them to be more united. The Stake was somewhat scattered, Panacca, one of its settlements, being 113 miles from St. George, and the roads were somewhat difficult to travel. At one time there had been a good deal of speculation as to what would form a line of demarcation between the righteous and the hypocrites. It appeared at one time that the United Order, which was so much advocated by President Young, would produce that effect, and also create that union that is necessary. This result has not, however, been attained by that means; neither has it brought the sinner to repentance. The present crusade against the Saints was having a strong tendency in that direction. Many who had been previously slack in relation to their duties, were already returning to the Lord. Persecution, in the shape of hunting and harassing the servants of God, and driving the innocent from their homes, is not only to try the Saints, but also to enable the wicked to fill up the cup of their iniquity, after which the Lord will come out of His hiding place and vex this and other nations with a sore vexation. Their sufferings will be such as to create sorrow among the Saints. The speaker testified that the work of God would go on. The Gospel would be preached in the world in order to leave the wicked without excuse and gather the honest, and thus prepare the way for the second coming of Christ, the signs of whose advent are everywhere apparent. The Saints may have to be tried, but the just will live by faith, and stand the testing hour. It was through trial that Abraham was tested, and so with those who shall be numbered among his children, and be heirs to the same promises given to him. And as Abraham was delivered, so will the Saints be, in the due time of the Lord.

PRESIDENT SILAS S. SMITH,

Of San Luis Stake, addressed the Conference. It had been his fortune to be, during his identification with the Church, most of the period of his life, a resident of frontier settlements. The Stake to which he was attached (in Colorado) was composed mostly of people from the Southern States. A great many of them had been compelled to leave their former homes on account of persecution, and had mostly reached their new location in an almost penniless condition. Business was dull and labor scarce, but all the institutions and organizations that existed in other parts of the Church were established there and are prospering. The present attack upon the Church had the contrary effects upon the people than that of discouragement. The Saints were increasing in faith and good works. The clouds which had gathered will in due time be dispelled, and the sunshine of peace appear in renewed splendor.

PRESIDENT W. W. CLUFF,

Of Summit Stake, addressed the Conference. To-day we are passing through a peculiar experience—a time of trial; but the Saints have been anticipating just such scenes. These events have all been foretold by the servants of God who have lived in different dispensations. If the Saints were not expecting such circumstances, it would show that they do not have faith in those inspired predictions. The world, however, look upon such things as marvelous. Some visitors from abroad express wonder at the animus that is exhibited by some of the people of this nation toward the Latter-day Saints. The speaker related expressions to this effect that had been made in his hearing. As had already been remarked, the attacks made upon the Saints acted as a stimulus to cause them to be more faithful. It is not a new struggle. It has always existed when God has had a people on earth who were ready and willing to serve Him. And it will continue until the power of Satan is destroyed. The speaker cited the case of Daniel, who was cast into the lions' den. Those who caused the decree to be issued to bring about that result, imagined they had accomplished something that would effect the destruction of the Prophet. But he was miraculously preserved. So in other instances related in the Scriptures. The efforts that are now being made against the Church of Christ, and which it is fondly hoped will accomplish its destruction, will also finally be overturned. The history of this Church, from its incipiency till now, is full of wonderful deliverances wrought out by the Almighty, and the Lord will never forsake it. The present efforts against it will be just as unfruitful of the results anticipated by those who are making them, as former attempts of the same kind have been.

ELDER N. C. FLYGARE,

Counselor in the Presidency of the Weber Stake, was the next speaker. The preceding speakers have referred to the peculiar times in which we are living. From the time we embraced the truth we have understood that we would have to suffer persecution. We have been aware that it would be said by the wicked, "Let Zion be defiled." We have for over thirty years enjoyed comparative immunity from persecution, and during the lull the gathering of the elect and other departments of the work of the Lord have been forwarded. It is God's work, and we are merely instruments to be used in building it up. We have to be tried that we may lay a foundation for eternal glory, by

proving our worthiness under difficulty. The present assault upon the liberties of the Saints will draw them nearer together, that they may be one, in accordance with the command of our heavenly Father. They will gain a better understanding of the principles and institutions of the kingdom of God, and be better prepared to carry out His will. We have come out of the nations to do the bidding of God through His servants, and it is to be hoped that we have not, because of the cares of the world, forgotten our sacred obligations. Our condition cannot be stationary. It must either be forward or retrogressive.

The choir sang the anthem:

I will sing of the mercies of the Lord.

Benediction by Apostle Heber J. Grant.

AFTERNOON.

The choir sang:

Hark! the song of jubilee,
Loud as mighty thunders roar.

After prayer by Apostle Heber J. Grant, the choir sang:

Now, let us rejoice in the day of salvation,
No longer as strangers on earth need we roam.

ELDER JUNIUS F. WELLS

Addressed the congregation. He esteemed it a privilege to bear testimony to the truth in the presence of the people of God. The Saints had assembled in accordance with an annual custom that had been established for more than fifty years. Such occasions had been pregnant with blessings to those who are disposed to obey the will of God. Business has always been transacted at such times that is of great importance to the people of the world. Ambassadors for Christ are commissioned to go forth bearing the message of the Gospel, which is tidings of great joy to the honest in heart. It was a happy time when you listened to the preaching of what God had revealed for the benefit of His children. You received the message gladly and obeyed it. In doing so you laid your worldly prospect on the altar of sacrifice. You received the ministrations of the Holy Ghost, and, through that medium, a witness of the truth. Because of that testimony you gathered to this land, that you might increase in a knowledge of the truth and in consequent obedience to it. Those who possess the truth are filled with courage, for such a foundation promotes the highest phase of valor. The Lord has, in this dispensation, revealed an order or system of government that fully meets the requirement of the human race. Because of this revelation the world is arrayed against those who acknowledge it. It is but a repetition of what has occurred in the history of the world. We know that there is nothing in the religion that we have espoused that has any other effect than to exalt and improve those who put it into practice. The speaker had, he said, been subjected to many allurements to lead him from the faith of his father. He had asked of those who had offered such inducements to show him any truth of a progressive and desirable character that was not incorporated in his religion. It was stated in reply that the Saints had no standing in society at large; that they were degraded. The speaker said that the hatred of the world was no evidence against the Saints, and they were far from being de-

graded. A good deal had been said about the status of the young people of the community. Some had proved recreant, but they were exceptions, and the majority were strong in their integrity. Brother Wells said it was far from a proper method to draw him away from the religion of his father, to hold up his parents as the extremest type of criminality. He knew that they had taught him to honor God and walk uprightly, and if he did not so conduct himself, it was no fault of theirs. He concluded by stating that the Gospel developed all that is good in man.

PRESIDENT ABRAM HATCH,

Of Wasatch Stake, was the next speaker. This is God's work. We are in His hands to do as He desires. He, through His servants, will instruct us as to what course we should take under all circumstances. While listening to what was said by the speakers this morning, the mind wandered back to the scenes of Illinois, when the Prophet Joseph lived, and then came his death by violent hands; subsequently came the driving of the Saints from their homes. Many people looked upon those times as involving great hardships, as the Saints had done nothing to deserve such treatment, being peaceful and law-abiding. The gathering to this place under President Young was accomplished; the people have established themselves in homes, and have spread out on every hand. If we are faithful, we are as sure to remain here as we live. We fear nothing only that we should do wrong. Prosperity has, in some instances, caused us to be proud, forgetting that what we have received has come from the Almighty. The Wasatch Stake extends over a large extent of Territory. In includes Wasatch and Uintah Counties, formerly one. The people are attentive to their duties, being diligent, prayerful and sober. The little ripple of excitement that has passed over Utah has scarcely reached Wasatch Stake. The people are staying at home, attending to their farms. They feel for their brethren who are harassed by persecution, and do not know but it may come their turn after a while. There was very little business for the High Council to do, disputes being but few and far between. There are three Indian tribes within the borders of the Stake. The people are very kind to them, and a friendly feeling exists between them and the settlers. God requires of us obedience to His law, and to do the labors of life in the spirit of the Gospel.

PRESIDENT E. D. WOOLLEY,

Of Kanab Stake, addressed the Conference. He left home on the 25th of March to attend the gathering of the Saints. His residence is in the extreme south of Utah. The Stake he represented was in a prosperous condition. The number of the people is small, but they are, generally speaking, good Latter-day Saints. There are few, if any, permanent residents who do not belong to the Church; consequently their interests are common. They feel like sustaining and protecting one another. They had passed through some trials of late, but they had effected but little harm. The Saints have no occasion to fear. Times of the past have been more trying in their character than those of the present, so far as they have progressed. We have been informed that the time would yet come when powerful opposition would be needed for the development of this work. The young, in some instances, had almost begun to imagine that those predictions would fail of fulfillment,

but they are taking place as they had been stated. The speaker said that when he was a boy he heard President Young say that Utah would be peopled from one end to the other, and a person would yet travel from one extremity to the other and scarcely lose sight of human habitations. He, at the same time, described, as he looked over the Salt Lake Valley, canals that would be constructed. This was in an early time, and the speaker had seen in his journey hither from home, a verification of this prediction. The Latter-day Saints are firmly established in these mountains, and they will remain until they have accomplished the design of the Almighty in bringing them here.

PRESIDENT WILLARD SMITH,

Of Morgan Stake of Zion, said that division of the Church contains a very good people. There are nine Bishops' Wards fully organized. All the associations peculiar to the Saints exist there, and are performing their several functions in the development and education of the Saints. The officers are active and efficient. There are disadvantages in the Morgan Stake, owing to the great altitude of the location, frosts being intense and frequent. Some of the productions, however, are unsurpassed by any yielded in any other portion of Utah, so that the disadvantages were balanced by advantages. The speaker had been employed in the building of the Temple at Kirtland, Ohio, when a boy. His father and brother were both killed in the Haun's Mill massacre. He related a number of incidents connected with the early history of the Church which came under his own personal observation. He spoke of the trials of the present day, and concluded with an exhortation for the Saints to be true to their integrity.

ELDER JOHN NICHOLSON

Was the next speaker. He drew the attention of the people to the signs of the times, speaking of the present condition of the nations, showing that the spirit of peace was leaving the earth. All of the indications that Christ had said would be precursory of His second coming existed now. In accordance with the divine injunction, it was therefore proper for the Saints to lift up their heads and rejoice, because of the nearness of their redemption. He alluded to the numerous disrupting elements that were at work in this country, and spoke of the present position of the Church in reference to the cruel and harassing opposition to which it was being subjected. The clouds of adversity were as needful for the development of the work as the sunshine of prosperity. There never was a time in which the Saints had greater reason to rejoice. The opposition would have two leading effects. They were already being produced: the uniting of the people and the purification of the organization. The former condition could not be reached without the latter, and unless we were one, Christ would not fully accept us. Already the riddling process was begun, and men were showing where they stand. In course of time the hypocritical and corrupt would be eliminated from the Church, leaving it stronger, more solid and peaceful. The speaker had nothing to say about those who were engaged in persecuting the Saints. If the ultimate effects of their movements will be as stated, they are unconsciously doing their part of the work of the Lord as well as we, but on the opposite line. Denunciation was useless, and he had none to hurl at anyone

Speaking for himself, without claiming to voice the opinion of others in relation to the controversy that was in progress, he said he knew of nothing those who were opposed to the Church had to offer for which he proposed to barter away anything he had received through obedience to the Gospel. He exhorted the Saints to be true to each other and to sustain the servants of God; not only in word, but also in deed should it be necessary. He declaimed against those who turned against their friends and the truth, and characterized a traitor as the most despicable of all creatures on earth.

The choir sang an anthem.

Benediction by Apostle John W. Taylor.

SECOND DAY.

Morning Session, Sunday, April 5th.

The Conference convened at 10 a.m., and the choir sang:

Come, thou glorious day of promise,
Come and spread thy cheerful ray.

After prayer by Apostle F. M. Lyman, the choir sang:

Hark! ye mortals. Hist! be still,
Voices from Cumorah's hill.

APOSTLE JOHN W. TAYLOR

Addressed the Conference. Although, as a people, we are subject to many frailties, we also exhibit many qualities that are noble. The speaker had not, since his arrival in Logan, heard the name of the Deity blasphemed; neither had he observed any intemperance or disturbance of the peace. The homes of the people are neat and comfortable. The people of the community are of different nationalities, and their gathering together ought to be a great testimony to the world, if they would receive it. It was one of the most significant signs of the latter times. The Saints have come to Zion to feast upon the instructions given them by the servants of God. They believe in inspiration and prophecy. They had faith in the inspired predictions delivered in ancient times. Some had been fulfilled, some are in process of fulfillment, and others would surely be verified in due time. The Prophets of olden times, notably Isaiah, had prophesied in relation to the establishment, in its present exalted location, of Zion. The speaker had heard it admitted by people who do not believe in the divinity of this work, that it is a wonderful phenomenon, for according to its history the more its adherents were abused, and the more determined the efforts made to suppress it, it had the more success. The Church is a nursery, destined to spread and yield good fruit in every nation. The young should prepare themselves for the work that will devolve upon them in the world. This opposition which has been prominently mentioned during this Conference need not cause any fearfulness. This called to mind the fact that in the State of Georgia in the year and a half following the assassination of Joseph Standing, more people were added to the Church than during the same length of time in any previous period. The principle of plural marriage, against which the main force of the opposition was being hurled, had been a divine institution from before the foundation of the world. There had been some talk about President Taylor issuing a revelation abolishing that system of marriage. When a revelation of that kind is given, it will be when the Lord has no use for the

Latter-day Saints, and this will never transpire, for He has promised to give them the kingdom and to sustain them. But those who oppose the Church do not care much about plural marriage; it is the principle of unity, and consequently of power, that is feared. The Latter-day Saints are the most thoroughly organized of any people on earth. This is admitted by persons who have studied the associations of every part of the world. The officials who are opposing the Church are in pursuit of money and power. Take away the one, and the prospect of the other, and their work would cease. Those engaged in the crusade are seeking to break the political power of the community. If the Government would take less trouble to pursue the Latter-day Saints, and pay more attention to rooting out the destructive elements that were threatening society at large, it would be much more conducive to the public weal. The secret combinations that are forming mean destruction and devastation. They will increase, and cause fear to seize upon the people, and prominent men would be marks for their antipathy. Men occupying conspicuous positions would be in danger because of the state of things approaching.

The speaker related an anecdote about an Elder named Butterfield, who was, in the East, invited by a lady relative of a late Utah Federal Judge, to call at her house. When he visited her, he was asked into a room where there were a large number of ladies and none of the other sex. He was placed in the middle of the group, and the hostess asked him what the people in Utah thought of Judge M——. "Oh! We didn't pay any attention to such small potatoes as he," was the reply. This incensed the questioner, and she said: "I suppose you don't like the Judge because he wont allow you to have as many wives as you want?" "Well," said Brother Butterfield, "I had two wives when he arrived in Utah, and I have got them yet." This so excited the lady's indignation that she sprang to her feet and exclaimed: "Ladies, let us put him out;" so as many of them as could get near enough seized hold of him. The Elder looked at them imploringly and said: "Now ladies, I wish you would wait, as this is not the time nor place for such a manifestation of affection. If you will only be patient and come along to Utah, and if you continue in the same mind, I will fulfill the words of Isaiah, who said the time should come when seven women would take hold of one man and ask him for the privilege of taking his name in order to take away their reproach. Wait till you go to Utah and I will marry you all." (This anecdote caused the audience to smile more or less audibly).

The speaker continued: What is the cry of women who have been neglected and injured by men? It is that their reproach may be taken away. The fuss and cry about polygamy will cease after awhile, and it will be supplanted by another in regard to treason. It is the fruit of the goodly tree that is now being assailed. In course of time the assault will be upon the tree itself.

APOSTLE HEBER J. GRANT

Was the next speaker. Through our diligence and faithfulness we will be entitled to the blessings of the Lord. There is one thing that is certain about the present trouble—the Latter-day Saints will come out uppermost at the end of the controversy. No matter what restrictions we may be placed

under by men, our only consistent course is to keep the commandments of God. We should, in this regard, place ourselves in the same position as that of the three Hebrews who were cast into the fiery furnace. If we are living in the light of the Gospel, we have a testimony of the truth, and we have but one choice, that is to abide in the law of God, no matter as to the consequences. It is sometimes held that the Saints are in error because so many are opposed to them. But when people know they are right, it is wrong for them to forego their own honest convictions by yielding their judgment to that of a majority, no matter how large. When a man knows himself that he is honest, he needs care but little as to what the world may think or say concerning him. Some people are thought well of in public, while in their domestic conduct they are not what they should be. Every man's life should be such that his wives and children can bear the best testimony concerning him. The speaker stated that his esteem and love for the servants of God had increased by closer association with them. This was because he had opportunities of discovering their devotion to the truth. There is nothing that is right but they are ready to do if it conduces to the advancement of the cause of God on the earth. He had heard it stated that "Mormonism" was a stupendous fraud, and those who were of that opinion had wondered that he had been selected for one of the leaders, and he had been asked whether he did not realize that it was a humbug. To such he had borne his testimony with good effect, because he had lived according to his profession. A good deal was being said about some of the authorities retiring from public view for a season. Why should any people thrust their hands into the fire when they know they will be burned by so doing? There will be opposition to the Latter-day Saints until the whole social fabric of the world is revolutionized. In seeing these things, we are only witnessing the fulfilment of that which has been prophesied. We may expect to see men who are corrupt arise and proclaim that this people are wicked. No man in this Church can commit the sin which the world falsely accuse the Saints of perpetrating and retain the Spirit and a standing in the community. Adultery is of all sins the most abominable (the shedding of innocent blood excepted) in the sight of God. By incidents of his own experience the speaker illustrated the confidence that people outside the Church have—in a business capacity—in faithful Latter-day Saints, and the distrust with which they look upon apostates. There are, however, some men who have been in the Church who never were energetic while in it, and have exhibited a similar indifference after leaving it. Some who have withdrawn from the Church, the speaker hoped some day to see return to the fold of Christ. Some who have been filled with light and energy when in the faith of the Gospel, are equally bitter against the truth, seeking to tear down what they formerly were engaged in building up. Notwithstanding, the evil that is falsely spoken of the prominent Elders in this Church, if any one of them were to give his word of honor to any of these deputy Marshals that are hunting them, that he would appear at a stated time and place, he had no doubt that it would be taken by the officer. The best and most honorable men of the community, as a rule, had entered into plural marriage and were the objects of the cruel

prosecutions that were now being enforced. The speaker concluded by expressing confidence that the cause of truth and righteousness would be vindicated.

ELDER HARVEY H. CLUFF,

Counselor in the Presidency of the Utah Stake, was the next speaker. He had been engaged in the work of God nearly fifty years. In all his travels in the world he had never encountered anything which he was willing to accept in exchange for his faith. He had a testimony of the truth for himself. He had witnessed and passed through persecutions, and he rejoiced in them. If we keep the commandments of God, we will behold His salvation. He had always believed the Saints would have to pass through difficulty, and that every species of subterfuge would be resorted to to bring about their destruction. The ungodly will continue in this line. It is not the practice of some of the doctrines that brings the animus alluded to. It is the principle of power among the Saints that is opposed. Many of the very men who are opposed to the Church are the ones who are corrupt, and would bring immoral practices into this community. He concluded by exhorting the Saints to increased faithfulness.

The choir sang an anthem.

Benediction by President Charles O. Card.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

VENTILATION WITHOUT DRAUGHT.—This desideratum appears to be accomplished by a syphonic system devised by Mr. Frederick H. Smith. The air supply is conducted into the apartment from the external atmosphere by means of air ducts which terminate in distributing passages at the floor level. The exit for the vitiated air is placed in the ceiling and consists of two tubes, a large and a small one, running parallel to each other between the floor joists in the case of rooms having others over them. In the case of rooms on top floors, or those having the roof directly over the ceiling, the tubes are placed concentrically, but the action and results are the same. The larger of the two tubes carries off the vitiated air, while the smaller one forms an induction tube for cold air, its outer extremity being open to the atmosphere. These two tubes or conduits are so connected that the passage of the heated air through the larger tube induces a current of cold air through the smaller one in a continuous stream. The result is a rapid clearing away of all deleterious gases and products of combustion as they accumulate, and the preservation of a pure atmosphere at an equable temperature in the apartment. In a small room at Mr. Smith's office, in which five large gas jets were burning, the atmosphere was apparently quite innoxious at the level of about 7 feet, the temperature being about 60 deg. Fahr. At a higher level, however, and especially near to the ceiling, the temperature was high, and the air greatly vitiated. It was demonstrated that this vitiated air was being drawn off through the exit tube, which acted as a powerful sucker. After turning off the gas burners, and upon the temperature of the room generally becoming lowered and equalized, a feeble upward action was still maintained in the upcast tube, but there was no down draught whatever. The system has already been applied to a church and other buildings with acknowledged success.

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS' MILLENNIAL STAR.

MONDAY, MAY 4, 1885.

THE LATE GENERAL CONFERENCE.

THE minutes of the late General Conference in Logan will be read with great interest by the Saints in this country. The peculiar circumstances under which the Conference was held, preventing the presence of the First Presidency of the Church, an unprecedented event in our history, rendered the occasion a remarkable one. The feeling of regret at the absence of the leaders of the Saints was, however, much modified by the reading of an epistle from them, in which no doubt their feelings and spirit were as fully expressed as it was possible for them to be in written language. This epistle was read during the afternoon session of the second day, and will appear *in extenso* in our next issue. We do not think our readers will object to our anticipating it by a few remarks upon its most salient points. It is prefaced by expressions of deep gratitude to our Heavenly Father for His many blessings to His servants and Saints, and also of firm faith that the present attempts to torment and persecute the faithful people of God will result in their glory and exaltation, and the everlasting condemnation of their enemies. The wicked methods of the present extra-judicial system of persecution in reversing the old rule of jurisprudence which deemed the accused innocent until proven guilty, and in denying the right of trial by a fair and impartial jury, are exposed and commented upon. The reasons for the withdrawal of the First Presidency and other leading men from public notice are fully given. The perfect willingness of these men to meet their accusers, face to face, before any properly organized courts and juries of their peers, if they can be assured of the same rights that burglars, thieves and murderers are accorded under the law, is set forth in the ringing words of conscious innocence of any infraction of the laws of God, or of the Constitutional laws of man. Reference is made to the action of the Imperial Government of Great Britain in protecting by law in all their rights, privileges and franchises, their 180,000,000 subjects in India. The religious faith of the Latter-day Saints in the sacred and eternal nature of their marriage covenants is clearly set forth and explained, and is followed by a just and truthful arraignment of the crimes of fœticide, infanticide and prostitution which appear to be so inseparably connected with the man-made system of marriage now in vogue in Christendom. As the male members of the Church who practice plural marriage are generally estimated to be but two per cent. of the total mem-

bership, the injustice of harassing the whole people for the alleged misdeeds of this small minority is very forcibly illustrated.

An exhortation to the people to protect themselves and their families from the corrupt and insidious practices of the wicked, to maintain inviolate the Constitutional law of the land, a solemn testimony that God has established Zion, and that all who fight against her will perish, and a prayer that God will bless His Saints and preserve them from their enemies, bring to a conclusion this interesting and edifying epistle of the First Presidency.

The manner in which it will be received by those who read it, will depend upon the spirit and influence which actuate them. To the Saints it will prove a precious message of consolation and instruction, and will strengthen them in their holy faith. Their enemies will peruse it with an eager desire to find something which can be misconstrued and furnish an excuse for further accusation against them. Future generations will read it with as much interest as the epistles of Paul, and marvel at the fortitude, self-control and meekness of the servants of God, who are so grossly vilified and persecuted for righteousness' sake.

The European Saints will be pleased to learn that Apostle John Henry Smith was present and took part in the Conference. A synopsis of his discourse appears in the minutes, and in it, interesting mention is made of his labors in this land.

The weather during the Conference was unusually fine, and the hospitality of the Logan Saints was equal to the heavy demands made upon it by the presence of a vast number of visitors. G. O.

RELEASED.—Elder Lawrence H. Young, on account of ill health, is released to return home with the May company.

DISTRICT MEETING.—District Meetings of the Nottingham Conference will be held in the Temperance Lecture Hall, Leicester, on Sunday, May 10th, at 10-30 a.m., and 2-30 and 6-30 p.m. President D. H. Wells and Elder C. W. Penrose will be present.

ARRIVALS.—The following named missionaries arrived in Liverpool on last Wednesday, per S.S. *Alaska*, of the Guion Line: William Price, Joseph D. Smith, Joshua Greenwood, Richard T. Owens, John H. Tanner, Charles D. Gouslind, Daniel P. Callister, James Nye, Edward Davis, Edward Clyde, Orril L. Thompson, Richard J. Nuttall, Hans C. Petersen, A. P. Eliason, J. C. Nielsen, S. C. Nielson, S. C. Hansen, Soren Thompsen, Christian Nielsen, Einar Erickson, Carl F. Carlson, John Hagman, Niels A. Anderson, Niels Andersen, James Peterson, Frederick N. Christiansen, Niels P. Peterson, Peter C. Jenson, Charles H. Aebischer, C. Frederick Bessler and John Stahle. Five ladies and Brother John C. Marley accompanied the party as visitors. Among the former was Sister Vienna Nelson on her way to Denmark to join her husband, who has been laboring there as a missionary about two years.

APPOINTMENTS.—James Nye, Edward Davis and Joseph D. Smith, are appointed to labor in the London Conference; Daniel P. Callister and Rich-

ard J. Nuttall, in the Liverpool; John Henry Tanner and William Price in the Manchester; Orvil L. Thompson in the Glasgow; Richard T. Owens in the Welsh; Joshua Greenwood in the Leeds; and Charles D. Goaslind in the Newcastle Conference. Edward Clyde is appointed to labor in the Irish Mission. John C. Marley will visit his friends in Glamorganshire and other places, and preach the Gospel as opportunity offers.

ABSTRACT OF CORRESPONDENCE.

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THE TURKISH MISSION.

We have received a letter from Elder Spori in Constantinople, from which we make the following interesting extracts, showing the progress of his labors up to the 10th of April:

"On Sunday, March 22nd, I was introduced by Dr. Mavian to Messrs. Giragoxian and Dabrudjian, doctors and Quaker priests. I had a long and not unfriendly talk with them, and afterwards attended their meeting—Turkish and Armenian were spoken. Dr. Giragoxian invited me to his house the day following, and Dr. Dabrudjian took a walk with me; asked many questions, had some unkind feelings for Celestial Marriage, and insisted that the Bible contained the final revelations, and that if we admitted new prophets the door would be opened for false ones also. As he promised to read what we had to say in favor of new revelation, I handed him a letter the next Sunday which I had written after some praying and studying, and which will leave him without excuse. Since that he keeps out of my road, but shook hands with me the other day as we suddenly met on a street corner. Had a very good evening with Dr. Mavian, who was diligently searching for the truth.

"On the 24th, after fasting, I called on Dr. Giragoxian. He was at first very kind, inquired on several points, resisted more and more, took, after a while, the Greek Bible to get the better of me, and driven from point to point he retired to the famous doctrine, we are all kings and priests if we only believe in Christ, without any exterior performances. In the course of the discussion he quoted Gal. 1, 8, but when he learned that they and not the 'Mormons' had changed the doctrine preached by Paul, he excused me after two and a half hours' interview, leaving me hungry and tired, but better in feeling than he was himself. I have only seen him once since, but he was in a hurry.

"After a month's waiting since my first testimony to the German Workingmen's Union, I paid a visit to them again. They did not appear to see me, but nevertheless were careful not to step on me. As there were some ladies present, in order to satisfy their curiosity, some gentlemen requested me to speak for half an hour. I felt much like a soldier who stands under arms all day long expecting to fight, and just as he is retiring to camp is attacked by the enemy. I told them some square things in that thirty minutes. After the time was up some wished me to continue, and others made considerable noise. The question was decided in favor of my talking, which I did until one o'clock in the morning.

"On March 29th the world renowned Dr. Somerville delivered a great speech about Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. It was nothing but a big show—I might say performance; some good philosophical principles, and some wrong religious doctrines, all given in splendid language which astonished the people and blinded them to the errors. I went home and wrote out the speech, thinking it might be of some use afterwards.

"On the first of April I had a long interview with a learned Turk who speaks English. He knows our principles now, but he felt rather displeased when his principles and ideas of infidelity were badly shaken. He laughed at first about revelation and the resurrection and Bible doctrine, took his pencil, and drawing the system of the planets, comets,

suns, etc., upon a paper, he explained to me all the astronomy he knew, and perhaps a little more. I listened to him while he professed to prove the absurdity of Bible faith. Then, after begging pardon, I told him something of old, long lost science, referred to the Book of Abraham, and the great truths it contained, which are ahead of even Herschel and Madler; told him about the great Pyramid, and the origin of the false Magi in Egypt—and how Professor Orson Pratt corrected a certain error in astronomical figuring. I comforted him, however, by saying that it was from the Arabs that Toricelli borrowed the true idea of the universe which inspired Columbus. He asked if the 'Mormons' had good schools. I told him 'yes, the best in the world.' Said he, 'Man, you must come to my house'—an honor which a Turk seldom bestows upon a stranger—'and speak to my friends also.' Saw him only once since, and do not know how it works with him.

April 7th, had another interesting evening with Dr. Mavian, who had invited his relatives and friends and translated my words to them. May God bless this man! But this evening I received an insight into the inner life and the domestic affairs of the richer classes of the Armenians, which would make an interesting letter of itself. Sunken in infidelity and bigotry, we can discern in them the sure signs of a fallen people.

"On the 8th of April I was called to a sick lady of over seventy years. She was lying in great agony, swollen excessively on one side, palefaced and hopeless. Said the grandchildren, 'We have called on the doctors and priests, but can get no help. We have called upon the Turkish dervishes, who sometimes heal the sick, but it has been of no use. Can you do anything for our poor grandma?' I told them I could do nothing for her but pray, and that we seldom lay hands upon any outside of our Church. They offered me wine, which I refused. An old lady said, 'This man may pray for our poor sick friend and she will get well.' I administered to her, and left her in the hands of the Lord. In the evening I went again to the Germans, but was treated with indignity, and went home thanking God for His Gospel, and that I was counted worthy to suffer a little for the truth.

"On the 9th Brother Vartooguian told me that he was about to leave for Alexandria in Egypt as an interpreter, and on the 10th I called on the old lady to whom I had administered, and found her much better. There were many people present, and we had a good hour, Dr. Mavian interpreting in Armenian. A happier man never crossed the Galata bridge, as I did that evening by the thousands of lights of Stamboul and Pera under the deep, starry heavens."

UTAH NEWS.

(Summarized from Territorial Papers.)

The present Spring is one of the finest ever experienced in Salt Lake Valley.

The Canyon streams of Salt Lake are booming, and several men and teams are employed night and day to prevent Emigration Creek from overflowing its banks and doing considerable damage.

The Logan Branch of Z. C. M. I. did a rousing business during Conference. Attached to the premises is a large granary which contains nearly 20,000 bushels of wheat.

Mr. Spicer of the Nineteenth Ward, Salt Lake City, obtained a flowing well after going down about fifty feet; and the water came up so rapidly that his door yard was flooded before he could get the water under control.

Information has reached the *Deseret News* that George M. Crawford, a

bitter Anti-"Mormon," who took a prominent part in the outrageous and unconstitutional legislation against the Saints in Idaho, has gone insane and been placed in an asylum.

Rasmus Jensen, an eleven year old son of John Jensen, was found drowned in a water sect in Salt Lake City on the morning of the 15th ult. He was subject to fits, and probably while under their influence fell into the water, which was barely deep enough to cover his face.

On the evening of Thursday, April 11th, Blanchard Pettit, a son of Mr. Pettit, of the Fifteenth Ward, Salt Lake City, was killed by the accidental discharge of his gun while he was out duck hunting on the Jordan river. He was 27 years old and a young man of most excellent character.

The Rev. Dr. De Witt, resident minister in Salt Lake, of the Baptist Church, attended the General Conference in Logan, and made notes of the proceedings for publication in a journal of the denomination of which he is a representative. He carried himself like a gentleman, enjoyed his visit to Cache Valley, and expressed appreciation of the kindly feeling manifested towards him and courtesies of which he was the recipient.

The farmers of St. George suffered a heavy loss of crops last year through the washing away of the dam in the Virgen river, situated about midway between that city and Washington. An extensive and substantial pile dam is now being erected on the site of the old one, at considerable cost, which it is expected will be finished so that the water can be supplied to the fields by the 1st of June, and good crops there the present season are looked for.

The yearly report of the Sunday Schools in the Salt Lake Stake of Zion, for 1884, gives the total numbers of officers and teachers that have labored during the year at 937; total enrolment of pupils, 7887; total number of officers, teachers and pupils, 8825; number of classes taught, 578; number of books in libraries, 7429; amount of funds on hand at the end of last year, $716.91; collected during this year, $2,347.10; amount expended, $2,528.73; now on hand, $535.28.

Secretary Arthur L. Thomas has returned from Washington where he attended the meeting of the Utah Commissioners, held there on the 31st of March. He says that President Cleveland, during a conversation with the Commissioners upon Utah affairs, expressed a determination to enforce the Edmunds' law, with the provisions of which he seemed to be well acquainted. Attorney General Garland also gave them to understand that the course of the Federal judges, as shown in the late prosecutions would be strongly backed up.

Mr. John Beck, of Tintic, Juab Co., has purchased the valuable property, on which the Hot Springs, at the point of the mountain north of Salt Lake City, are situated. It is the intention of Mr. Beck to establish a sanitarium on his new acquisition, to provide plunge baths in the lake, etc., and to ship and sell the spring water, which possesses great medicinal properties. To do this successfully will require an outlay of about $25,000, and it is understood that Mr. Beck will proceed as early as practicable with the work, so that the Hot Springs bids fair, ere long, to become one of the most popular health and pleasure resorts in this locality.